

OSTRICH FARM- ING PAYING

California Salars of the Bird Are
Now Making Money on Selling
the Plumage.

After 20 odd years of constant financial loss in ostrich farming and the swallowing up of several Englishmen's fortunes of \$200,000 and \$250,000 each, the industry has become one of the most profitable in this region, which used to be a loser by about \$15,000 a year, has become a money maker. Its owner, Edwin Cawston, formerly of England, cleared over \$45,000 during the year ended September 1, says the Pomona (Cal.) Review.

Most people have an idea that an ostrich is plucked of its plumage by holding the giant bird down with straps and ropes, while an attendant pulls the feathers indiscriminately from the bird's back and wings. But harvesting ostrich feathers is a scientific operation that demands experience and care lest birds costing from \$300 to \$1,700 be ruined for wealth production.

When a plume is ready for its plucking it is known as ripe. The ostrich expert goes over the flock, carefully selecting from its birds whose feathers show that the ripening of the plumes has set in. Then the birds are separated into flocks of 12 and 14 and confined in little inclosures, where they may not run about and damage their valuable plumage. When all is ready for the season of feather plucking each ostrich is cajoled by a basket of food held before it out of the inclosure with its mates into a narrow passageway built of heavy boards. Front and rear gates are closed and the great bird is a prisoner between walls of planks that reach to its back and where there is no room for it to move in any direction. A cloth bag is thrown over the ostrich's head and the creature is fast in the coils of the feather harvester.

About half an hour is spent in plucking each ostrich. There are three men in each plucking crew. They stand upon a platform outside the pen where the ostrich is held fast, and with a dozen odd-shaped scissors and appliances for snatching blood that may flow from the bird's torn flesh, work diligently. Care is taken to leave enough feathers to protect the smaller feathers, which will grow into plumes by the next plucking. In the early days of ostrich farming in Southern California little attention was given to these details, and in consequence many birds died.

Most of the tail feathers are pulled, not cut off, because they reproduce better than on other parts of the ostrich, and because they are so short that the extra inch or two gained by not snipping the feather is a matter of several dollars more profit. Each plume when cut or pulled is laid in a clean box.

While the feather harvest is proceeding the ostrich keeps up an incessant low roaring, and but for the tightness of the pen it would kick the plank and boards into slivers. At last when the pluckers have done the fates are opened and the bird rushes out into the inclosure to join its mates. Then another ostrich is cajoled into the narrow pen, and the gathering of other feathers goes on.

The plumage of the older birds is denominated second-class in the markets. The older ostriches are kept largely for breeding purposes. A few ostriches in Southern California are more than thirty years old, and there are records of Nubian ostriches that have lived seventy and more years.

Ostrich farming is unusually prosperous these days. All the Southern California ostrich farms that were losing money steadily a few years ago, have doubled and trebled their number of ostriches and increased their land holdings. Some \$700,000 is now invested in ostrich farming in this region, and the annual output of feathers has grown to be over \$100,000.

The success of California ostrich farming has come largely from an invention of an ostrich incubator by a young woman in 1894. In ostrich domestic economy the male sits upon the nest eggs laid in the sand, occasionally relieved by the female.

In the hot Nubian deserts this plan works admirably, but on a little farm in the colder climate of California where the birds flock together, the sitters has so much to distract it from the nest that the eggs are frequently allowed to get cold at night. Therefore a whole annual setting has often been lost. The incubators have remedied all this, and now the percentage by a bullet from the enemy which killed both the squaw mother and the infant she carried on her back. There are the flutes the Indians play at their Shoshone dances, the dapper whistles they carve from the leg of a turkey, their camp blankets, and rare specimens of bead work. There are buffalo robes and porcupine shirts picked up by officers in the early Indian campaigns, and sent to

the museums. There are mementoes of the "ghost shirt dance" at Pine Ridge in 1881, which marked the expiring vigor of the fierce red men. As a relic of Arctic exploration, there is the flag unfurled by Lieut. Selwatha when he put foot in King William's Land during the Franklin search expedition. There are trophies from the Greely expedition and the relief under Schley that rescued the starving survivors. There are souvenirs of the Custer massacre, from the battlefields of the war with the Filipinos there are innumerable trophies.

MUCH IN LITTLE.

One county in Oregon reports that its wheat crop ran 50 bushels to the acre.

The inhabitants of the United States are more than \$8,500,000 worth of bananas last year.

An automobile hearse is the latest in the line of adapting the gasoline motor to every day uses.

An Englishman has been sent to an insane asylum through too much study of newspaper puzzles.

Sir Jervoise Clarke, of Australia, owns the largest sheep ranch in the world. It contains 50,000,000 head.

It is estimated that the total wages lost in the recent beef strike reached the enormous total of \$3,375,000.

Bishop J. W. Bashford, one of the recently elected bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, has gone to Shanghai, China, to enter the field of foreign work.

Thorium nitrate to the amount of 64,520 pounds, valued at \$232,155, was imported to the United States last year, for use principally in the manufacture of incandescent gas-light mantles.

The French provincial railroads are among the poorest in the world. Some of the cars are several decades old, and on one line, not long ago, the floor gave way and the car literally fell to pieces.

Two million bricks will be used in the new Rockefeller building in Cleveland; 40,000 square feet of glass will be put into windows and the steel alone will cost \$130,000.

The Rev. Robert J. Burdette's congregation at Los Angeles, Cal., has rented the Hazard Pavilion in that city for a year. It is the largest hall in Los Angeles and has heretofore been used for prize fights.

English potato growers are discouraged because of the damage done this year and last by "rot." All the finer varieties have shown themselves peculiarly liable to disease. The coarser sorts are immune.

The growth of the beet sugar industry in Colorado is constantly creating a demand for new factories. Lamar, Col., is to have a new beet sugar factory which will employ 300 men at least five months in the year. The plant will handle the crops of the eastern part of the Arkansas Valley and will be ready for the 1905 campaign.

Although the export of woolen goods to Russia has fallen off considerably for several months past, the orders which have been received from Japan have never been so large. Indeed, they are of such proportions as to keep the woolen mills of this country busy for some months to come. The goods being exported are such as are suitable for making winter uniforms for the army. The shipments of woolen yarns and combed wool during the first four months of 1904 have been larger than they were in the same period of either 1902 or 1903.

QUIET COURT

THIS MORNING TO BE ON ELECTION DAY—RECEIPTS WERE VERY LIGHT.

Candidates did not suffer much by having to pay fines to-day, only one man needing assistance. That was Jim Means, who was taxed \$5.00 for drunkenness. Elzy Adams made a wicked pass at a man named Layman on Main street last night and was promptly arrested by Officer Fleming. He put up \$10.00 for his appearance but did not show up.

Albert Cameron, colored, drives the Watson hotel bus, and at 7:30 yesterday evening was arrested by Chief Morgan for very reckless driving on Main street. \$2.50.

For Sale.
Choice building lots on Virginia avenue and Sixth street. Apply Edwin Robinson, Gas Office.

A substitute may be a sequel to Dorothy Dodd shoe, but it has never found its equal. C. B. Highland. x

"THE TURNING POINT OF THE WAR."



As usual, it is the point of the Jap's bayonet.

—Minneapolis Journal.

No limit to quality, but limit to price. Dorothy Dodd shoe for women. C. B. Highland. x

Buy your lime, Cumberland, Portland cement, at J. L. Hall's Hardware Store. x

Opera House Restaurant.
The Opera House Restaurant has opened up again and will serve its customers as usual in first-class style. It is for both ladies and gentlemen. ALVA HAWKINS, Manager. x

COUPON FOR GUESSING CONTEST.

Editors West Virginian:

My guess is that the winning candidate for President will be _____ and that he will receive _____ votes.

As additional guesses in accordance with your offer, I give the following:

Second guess, _____ votes.

Third guess, _____ votes.

Fourth guess, _____ votes.

Very truly,

The West Virginian Job Department.

We are now in position to do all kinds of Job Printing. If you want any of the following, or Job Work of any description, try us: :- :- :-

Shipping Tags,
Business Cards,
Bill Heads,
Letter Heads,
Note Heads,

Dodgers,
Sale Bills,
Statements,
Show Cards,
Programmes,

Announcements,
Negotiable Notes,
Promissory Notes,
Book Printing,
Price Lists.

All Work Promptly and Neatly Executed,

Fairmont West Virginian,
Monroe Street.

About the Children

Early training in the practice of self-denial; instruction as to the use and value of money; opportunities for earning and saving money; all these tend to fix and fasten the children in the ways of thrift and prosperity.

We are always glad to assist the little folks in their efforts to save money.

Home Savings Bank. Fairmont.

LEVI B. HARR,

— IS —

The only man in the Monongahela Valley who makes a specialty of making you money

and incidentally alive for himself.

Fairmont Real Estate.
Special Agents
Properties Rented
Special Agent

Loans Negotiated
Stocks For
Speculation
Bonds for Investment.

His clients are his references.

Office rooms, 322½ Main Street.



BALTIMORE & OHIO
RAILROAD.

PASSENGER trains will arrive at and depart from Fairmont on the following schedule on and after May 22d, 1904:

WEST BOUND.	
No. 7.—Chicago Express.	4:24 A. M.
No. 5.—Wheeling Accommodation.	7:47 A. M.
No. 55.—Wheeling & Cincinnati Express.	7:29 P. M.
No. 71.—Wheeling Accommodation.	1:36 P. M.
EAST BOUND.	
No. 8.—New York, Baltimore and Washington Express.	3:25 A. M.
No. 72.—Grafton Accom'n.	10:53 A. M.
No. 46.—New York, Baltimore and Washington Express.	1:48 P. M.
No. 4.—Grafton Accom'n.	8:35 P. M.

F. M. AND P. BRANCH.

ARRIVES.	
No. 50.—Pittsburg Accom'n.	1:00 P. M.
No. 4.—Pittsburg Accom'n.	9:55 P. M.
DEPARTS.	
No. 3.—Pittsburg Accom'n.	7:50 A. M.
No. 51.—Connellsville Accom'n.	2:10 P. M.
No. 69 leaves daily for Morgantown at 9:05 P. M. No. 62 arrives from Morgantown at 6:55 A. M., daily except Sunday; at 8:00 A. M. Sunday only.	

MONONGAH DIVISION.

No. 5.—Arrives at Fairmont	5:35 P. M.
No. 1.—Arrives at Fairmont	12:10 P. M.
No. 3.—Arrives at Fairmont	7:45 A. M.
No. 2.—Leaves Fairmont	7:19 A. M.
No. 6.—Leaves Fairmont	1:53 P. M.
No. 4.—Leaves Fairmont	9:55 P. M.

All trains are daily except Nos. 3 and 4 on the F. M. and P. branch, which are daily except Sunday.

For sleeping car reservations and information concerning tickets and rates, consult

T. B. HENDERSON,
Ticket Agent.

BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD.

Cheap Excursions to the St. Louis World's Fair Every Wednesday in August, September and October—Only \$13.00 Round Trip From Fairmont.

Tickets will be good going in coaches only on specified trains. Returning, tickets will be good in coaches only on all regular trains, leaving St. Louis not later than ten days, including date of sale.

Call on ticket agent for time of train and full information.

Paint pride is ours in justifiable measure, because we carry Heath & Milligan's best prepared paint, and satisfaction is guaranteed by its use. J. L. Hall's Hardware Store. x

Dressmaking
At 91 Second street, Fourth ward. Children's work a specialty.
Some person will get the brass bed. Coal City House Furnishing Company. x
Some person will get the Wilton rug. Coal City House Furnishing Company. x

The Bank of Fairmont,
FAIRMONT, W. VA.

J. E. WATSON, President.

J. S. HAYDEN, Vice President.

WALTON MILLER, Cashier

Capital, \$150,000.00.

Undivided Profits, \$160,000.00

DIRECTORS:

A. B. Fleming, J. S. Hayden,
J. E. Watson,

M. L. Hutchinson, F. E. Nichols

O. S. McKinney, C. E. Manly.

Transacts a general banking business.

Accounts of corporations, firms and individuals received upon the most favorable terms consistent with sound and conservative banking.

Interest paid on time deposits.

Separate vault with safety deposit boxes for use of customers.

The First National Bank
of Fairmont, W. Va.

Capital Stock, - \$100,000.00
Surplus and Undivided Profits, - 165,000.00

Designated Depository of the United States and State of West Virginia.

J. M. HARTLEY, President.

Hon. A. B. FLEMING, Vice President.

JOS. E. SANDS, Cashier.

DIRECTORS.

J. M. Hartley, Hon. A. B. Fleming

Benj. D. Fleming, Wm. E. Watson

Jos. E. Sands.

Chartered as State Bank in 1851. Organized as National Bank in 1865. Rechartered as National Bank in 1885.

Wants business based on balance and responsibility.

Collects on all points.

Sells domestic and foreign exchange.

Pays interest on special deposits.

Customers' private boxes taken care of in our fire and burglar proof vault free of charge.

The People's Bank of Fairmont, W. Va.

CAPITAL STOCK,

\$200,000.00.

George M. Jacobs, President

George DeBolt, Cashier

J. M. Brownfield, Assistant Cashier

Directors—G. M. Jacobs, S. L. Watson, J. M. Hartley, Harry Shaw, W. M. Raymond and C. E. Hutchinson.

All business entrusted to us will receive prompt and careful attention.

SOLICIT YOUR ACCOUNTS. Interest paid on time deposits. Vault is free to customers for private boxes and papers.

NEW CENTRAL HOTEL,
CORNER

Porter Alley and Monroe Street,

C. V. ABBOTT, Proprietor.

Rooms have been remodeled and

thoroughly renovated.

Rooms with bath.

First class bar attached.

J. L. INGRAM,

Contractor & Builder,

guarantees satisfaction in all his work. Screen doors a specialty. Estimates free. 718 Gaston Ave.

BRYAN'S VIEW OF NOMINATION.

"I have nothing to take back, I have

nothing to withdraw of the things

that I have said against the methods

pursued to advance his candidacy. It

was a plain and deliberate attempt to

deceive the party. The New York

platform was vague and purposely

so, because the advocates of Judge

Parker were trying to secure votes

from among the people who would

have opposed his views had they

known them. * * * The nomination

was secured, therefore, by crooked

and indefensible methods."—Wil-

liam Jennings Bryan, in "The Com-

moner," July 13, 1904.

Croquet is a pleasant pastime. Pre-

pare a set at J. L. Hall's hardware

store.